



# THE GLASGOW COURIER



VOLUME XIV.

GLASGOW, VALLEY COUNTY, MONTANA, FEBRUARY 14, 1919.

NUMBER 41.

## MANY CLAIMS IN NITRO CASE

Claim Agent Here Adjusting Losses of Men Who Lost on Deal.

FOUR STATE CLAIMS FROM HERE

Glasgow Los. Men by Sickness During Mix. Nitro Labor Situation. Impossible to

After spending two days here adjusting claims of the Montana labor recruits who went from Glasgow to Nitro, West Virginia, and then returned home, R. G. Smith, special claim agent representing the war department, left Glasgow for Malta on Thursday morning. While he was here Mr. Smith adjusted the claims of upwards of 20 of the men who went to Nitro from here. There are a number of others whose claims have not been adjusted, and he requests that these men write to him at the office of the United States employment service, Great Falls, at once, that their claims may be presented for payment.

There was more sickness among the men who went from this part of the state than any other, Mr. Smith stated while he was here. More than half of the men he talked with had, spent at least two days in the hospital at Nitro following their arrival at the big powder plant, which is now a government arsenal and entirely under the control of the war department.

Among the claims presented here for adjustment were four claims resulting from the death of as many recruits going from this city. One of these died at Columbus, Ohio, one at Nitro and one at Clifton, Virginia. One of these men lived at Vandalia, one at Hinsdale and the other, Hiram B. Gage, was a well known resident of this city. The fourth was C. T. Yeatts, whose family resides at Beaverton.

The claim presented by the widow of Hiram B. Gage disclosed the fact that through the confusion existing at Nitro at the time these men arrived there and for some time thereafter valuables belonging to Mr. Gage had been either misplaced or entirely lost. Claim was made for the recovery of a watch and a ring which Mr. Gage wore when he arrived at Nitro. The ring, Mrs. Gage declared, had been removed from his finger, and when claim was made in writing to Nitro following his burial word was received back that all trace of these articles had been lost. Mrs. Gage also presented a claim for clothing worn by her husband which has not been returned to her.

Because he had left the government reservation at Nitro before he was taken ill, little can be done for the relatives of Alexander Silver, son of Carl Silver, of Vandalia, who died at Clifton Forge, Virginia, but Mr. Smith stated that he will make an effort to recover the boy's personal effects and have them sent to Mr. Silver at Vandalia.

Claim for funeral expenses for Fred Clemence, presented by John C. McColly, of Hinsdale, was the largest of the undertaker's bill at Columbus and the express charges on the body from that place to Hinsdale, in all about \$300.

Some of the personal effects of C. T. Yeatts, another Glasgow recruit, who died at Nitro and was buried at Stuart, Virginia, were erroneously shipped to Kalispell and will be found and forwarded to the family at Beaverton by Mr. Smith.

Another claimant here in Glasgow presented a claim for a pair of gold cuff links set with chip diamonds which, he declares, were removed from his shirt while he was a patient in the base hospital. He also has a claim for a revolver which was taken from him when he arrived at Nitro, and which was contraband. This revolver is in the possession of the chief of police at Nitro, and may be returned to the owner here.

According to the information given to Mr. Smith by L. E. Jones of the chamber of commerce and superintendent of the United States employment service here, the method of recruiting the men for Nitro here was vastly different from any other place in Montana. In most of the places the recruiting officers appealed to the men's patriotism, and no coercion was used. They were not told that if they didn't go they would be drafted for work at Nitro anywhere but at Glasgow. This method was used here at the instance of B. S. Via of Big Sandy, attaché of the staff of the Hercules Powder company who came to Montana to obtain labor.

When the men returned home and

presented their complaints to Scott Leavitt, federal director for Montana of the United States employment service, he took the matter up with officials at Washington and also at Nitro. He made a special trip to both places and as a result of this Captain F. E. Townsend, superintendent of transportation at Nitro visited Montana and the method now being carried out for the adjustment of these claims was adopted, and Mr. Smith was named to handle the matter.

Beginning his work on January 1, he has visited practically every city in the state from where labor was recruited and upwards of 500 claims have been prepared and forwarded to Nitro for settlement, aggregating approximately \$12,000. Before he completes his work, which will be about March 1, this amount will be increased to at least \$15,000, and possibly more, not a penny of which would have been returned to these men but for the personal interest taken in their case by Mr. Leavitt, Mr. Smith stated before he left Glasgow.

The claims of the Glasgow men will approximate at least \$1500, and there are still a large number of claimants who have not presented their claims to Mr. Smith.

## CHAMPIONSHIP GAME TO BE PLAYED FEBRUARY 22

On Friday night the Poplar team will play the local team in a game which will in all probability decide the district championship. Glasgow, if it loses this game will be eliminated as championship aspirants, while Poplar, if she loses will still have another chance because of her victory over Glasgow early in the season. This is without doubt the most crucial game of the year for Glasgow and if she drops this her chances of getting to Bozeman will be slim.

Poplar is coming here with the expectation of an easy victory while Glasgow is confidently awaiting their appearance. The local quiet now is an entirely different aggregation than the inexperienced bunch that met defeat at Poplar over a month ago and their 97-18 and 62-25 victories over Harlem and Wolf Point are good evidence of this.

Regardless of the outcome a good game can be expected and the crowd will have the opportunity of seeing two of the fastest teams in Montana come together. Poplar has the best team in its history, defeating everything she has met, including North Dakota teams.

Glasgow will play at Havre on the 14th and a fairly close game is expected. Harlem and Chinook were also to be played on this trip but for various reasons they backed out. On March 1st Havre will play here and on the following Saturday Plentywood will be here.

The following men will line up against Poplar: Helland, lf; Ilman, rf; Seknan, c; Hovey, rg; Cotton, lg.

Your farm bureau is an organization for the development of a national program of work in agriculture and home economics, and for co-operating with state and national organizations to further public projects. It was organized to further the farmers' interests, and every farmer should back

## Glasgow to Get Demonstrator

FARM BUREAU SUCCEEDS IN GETTING HOME DEMONSTRATION AGENT OFFICE ESTABLISHED AT GLASGOW; MISS GERTRUDE ERICKSON COMING.

Valley county was represented at the state meeting of farm bureaus at Bozeman by Peter Peterson, president, and Mrs. Fred Scott, who has charge of the women's work in the farm bureau.

The farm bureaus of the state united and Mr. Peterson was elected vice president. Mrs. Fred Scott was successful in getting the extension department at Bozeman to send a home demonstration agent to Valley county. Glasgow is to be her headquarters, and she will assist in Phillips, Richland and Valley county until June 30th, when it is hoped that Valley county will take action and make her a permanent asset to the county.

The need for a home demonstration agent is felt all over this county; this is evident by the petitions that have been signed and mailed to the farm bureau office at Glasgow requesting that the matter be taken up with the extension department at Bozeman.

Miss Gertrude Erickson, the home demonstration agent, comes to Valley county from Maryland very highly recommended. Her first duty will

## FARCE PROSECUTION COSTS VALLEY COUNTY HUNDREDS

PROMINENT GLASGOW CITIZEN ACQUITTED AFTER FARCE TRIAL IN WHICH STATE FAILS TO INTRODUCE SPARK OF CONVINCING EVIDENCE. CASE WILL COST COUNTY SEVERAL HUNDREDS OF DOLLARS; TESTIMONY OF COMPLAINING WITNESS BROUGHT OUT FACT THAT HE HAD NOT BEEN REFUSED THE RIGHT TO VOTE; DEFENDANT TESTIFIED THAT HE TOLD COMPLAINING WITNESS THAT HE COULD NOT VOTE WITH HELP OF SAMPLE BALLOT AND EVIDENCE IS CORROBORATED BY OTHER MEMBERS OF ELECTION BOARD.

Like a bubble pricked by a pin the much heralded and widely advertised election corruption case in which David E. Parsons, a prominent citizen of this city, was charged with having attempted to interfere with an American citizen in exercising his right of suffrage, blew up without even the customary smoke Tuesday night when a jury of twelve good men and true, declared the defendant "not guilty" after seven short minutes spent in the jury room. The time spent by the jury in deliberating the case did not give them time for the customary smoke before arriving at a unanimous verdict in favor of the defendant and not even the court attendants were ready for the release of the jurors from the room when the "tap, tap" came upon the door announcing that they were ready to bring in their verdict. The court was obliged to wait a few minutes for the attorneys in the case before the jury filed into the court room and after hearing the verdict read, declared in clear, distinct voices that it was their decision in the case.

The case, which occupied the greater part of the day and lasted well into the night, gave every evidence of a clear case of "political spite work" and it was the general consensus of opinion among the vast attendance which crowded the court room from the beginning of the trial, that the case of the state was pitifully weak at all points. The evidence did not show at any point wherein the defendant had taken away from the complaining witness, one Andrew or Enders Syvertson Tveito, his official ballot and prevented him from voting, but the defendant's testimony, which was corroborated by the other members of the election board, did show that he had prevented Tveito from voting with the help of an unofficial sample ballot and that he had informed Mr. Tveito that it was against the law to bring into a polling place any unofficial sample ballot.

Tveito testified on direct examination that he thought he had done wrong and when he was admonished by the judge against using an unofficial sample ballot to help him vote, that he had left the polling place without attempting to secure another ballot. There was little question in the minds of the hundreds who heard the testimony in the case but that Tveito had been made the innocent tool of the local disseminators of the Lenin-Trotsky doctrines and that he really did not understand what the case was all about.

It will be remembered by the voters of Valley county that on election morning every election precinct in the county was flooded with sample ballot forms issued by the local heads of the Nonpartisan league and Mr. Parsons testified that it was one of these ballots that Tveito was using in the booth at the time he informed him that it was against the law. The testimony of the other members of the election board brought out the fact that Tveito had walked over to the judges' table and handed in his ballot after being admonished by Mr. Parsons.

The case of the state, which was ably handled for the amount of evidence the prosecution had to offer, was represented by Assistant Attorney General R. W. Choate of Helena, assisted by County Attorney Carl D. Borton, and the defense by Norris, Hurd & McKellar of this city. The trial was presided over by Judge George P. Jones of Forsythe.

Hurd Seathes Prosecution. Attorney George E. Hurd of Great Falls, who made the closing argument for the defense, scathed the prosecution and the parties who were behind the action in terms that no one present could possibly have misunderstood. In part of his argument Mr. Hurd said in substance: The closing part of the argument made to you by the assistant attorney general is very easily answered. He tells you that this prosecution is instituted and conducted for the reason that he desires to use his efforts towards making the purity of the ballot an established fact. If Tveito's testimony in this case is to be believed at all, it was not Tveito who went into the election booth to vote, except the physical Tveito; the mental direction behind Tveito's vote, on his own testimony, was the force and destructive energies against government that issued this card and sent it out to Tveito, who did not know what to vote unless somebody told him. And then the assistant attorney general of so great a commonwealth as Montana tells you twelve men that he is here trying to have it established that this is a government of the people, but everyone who believes that it was wrong to take away from Tveito this sample ballot favors not a government by the consent of the governed, but a government under which a man of Tveito's lack of intelligence and appreciation of citizenship can go into a voting booth here in Valley county and vote as somebody else tells him to vote. And you tell me that that is government? Is that the kind of a case in which you want to convict a citizen of this town against whom there cannot be one word spoken which will cast a blemish upon his name? And I do not care if all the Tveitos and all of his kind get together in Valley county and come in here under somebody's direction and admit to substituting a card like this for such a sample ballot, damnable in its purpose, as was actually taken away from Tveito.

The assistant attorney general tells you twelve men that there isn't any controversy but that it was a card instead of a sample ballot that was taken from Tveito. I do not understand what the attorney general means when he says there isn't any material conflict in the evidence upon that point, when Tveito, who doesn't even understand the English language—and the assistant attorney general admits that—that isn't perhaps anything against him, but personally I am tired of these people in this country who won't take the pains and the time to study the English language so that they can throw off the rule of the people who are controlling Tveito. For one, I resent walking down to this court house behind a bunch of people talking some foreign language that we cannot understand; I resent it as an American citizen. It is not

government. If these people don't know enough to read a ballot which furnished them when they are given the privilege of participating in the kind of government we have established here, that privilege should be taken away from him.

Now, here is a sample ballot. The evidence of D. E. Parsons is that this was the kind and character of sample ballot that he took away from Tveito. This court has told you, in language which you cannot misunderstand, that taking it into the polling place, or taking it into a polling booth, or using it, was a violation of the election laws of this state. The court has told you, in language which you can understand, that a judge of election is charged with some duties. Some of you gentlemen told me that you had been judges of election. What do you think that you were there for? To allow the votes controlled by somebody who was trying to upset our government and not any longer make it a government by the consent of the governed, but a government by consent of people with no responsibility for the government, and do not even believe in Montana. Why, gentlemen of the jury, a conviction in this case would, in my opinion, be a disgrace to the great state of Montana. When you think that a man does not know any more than to go into an election polling place with a thing of that sort marked as that ballot is marked, that man in my judgment should not be permitted to participate in elections in this state. And when D. E. Parsons, or any other judge of election—I don't care what his name is—exercising the authority that is in him vested by reason of his being appointed a judge of election—looks out for those things, he is doing for you, gentlemen of the jury, the same kind and character of a duty that the boys who died in France—as the assistant attorney general told you—were doing for you and me. And D. E. Parsons, performing that duty of citizenship, is entitled to just such credit to the extent that he went as one of the boys who gives his life for this government, and you cannot escape that proposition.

LIEUTENANT WRIGHT HOME. Lieutenant A. W. Wright of the aviation section, stepped off No. 1

on Sunday morning and surprised his friends in Hinsdale, who were not aware that he was due home. Art has been placed on the reserve, which entitles him to the privilege of a month's training each year at some flying field to "brush up" on the latest stunts of the flying game. He has been stationed at Lonoke, Arkansas during the past several months.

The life of an aviator is one of thrills, Art says, and he enjoyed the experience immensely.

Mrs. Wright stepped off at Austin, Minn., for a visit with relatives.—Hinsdale Tribune.

Captain Parker back from trip overseas

Prominent Glasgow Man Returns After Two Years in Service.—Other Glasgow Men Soon to Come Home.

Captain Clement A. Parker of the 346th Field Artillery, returned Wednesday morning from Brest, France, coming via Camp Lewis, Washington, where his company was discharged.

Captain Parker, who was formerly a member of the firm of Parker & Murphy, lawyers of this city, left Glasgow in August, 1917, to attend the officers' training school at Presidio, California. He received a commission as captain of artillery in November of the same year and after several months training and drilling at Camp Lewis he sailed on June 28, 1918 with his company for France.

Captain Parker has a host of friends in Glasgow who are delighted to have him back with us. He stated to a Courier reporter that he contemplated locating somewhere in northeastern Montana within the near future.

J. P. Murphy, who left here in December, 1917, and was commissioned a second lieutenant in the Signal Corps, passed through here on Wednesday morning for Boston, Mass., where he will spend a few weeks visiting his mother and friends before returning to Glasgow.

Captain Parker informs us that both Mr. Murphy and George F. Burke, who left here about the same time, and have been located at Vancouver barracks, had been recommended for captains' commissions which were to have been issued within a few days, when the armistice was signed. That both Mr. Burke and Mr. Murphy more than made good will be evidenced by the fact that their recommendation for promotion jumped an entire grade, which is very unusual in the army. We understand that Mr. Burke is to receive his discharge within a short time and will also be home.

Carl Holthberg returned Tuesday evening from Ft. Logan, Col., where he received his discharge. One after another our young men who were called on to take their places in the great national army of our country, are returning home.—Valley County Reporter.

## Y.W.C.A. Girls To Make Drive

TO BE HELD LAST WEEK IN FEBRUARY; VALLEY COUNTY'S APPORTIONMENT IS \$125.00.

Letters have been received by the local Y. W. C. A. committee from the state director, Mrs. J. W. Walker, calling attention to the "Girls' Week" campaign to be held the last week in February. This is for the purpose of putting an organizer at work throughout the state in order to carry on a program of recreation, occupation, education and inspiration, among those girls who have so faithfully devoted their time to Uncle Sam's interests during the war, and who are now coming home in large numbers. The appeals of peace are no less urgent than those of war.

The apportionment for the state for the reconstruction program is \$7525 and for Valley county \$125, divided as follows:

Glasgow, \$55; Hinsdale, \$15; Nashua, \$15; Vandalia, \$5; Baylor, \$5; Glentana, \$5; Opheim, \$10; Oswego, \$5; Frazer, \$5, and Tampico, \$5.

The solicitors for these places are: North Glasgow—Mrs. Wedum, Mrs. E. White, Mrs. Ruth Devney, Miss Ethel Belzer. South Glasgow, business district—Miss Stratton, Miss Hanson. South Glasgow, residence district—Mrs. Kampfer and Miss Grif-

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## BILLS UNDER CONSIDERATION

Normal School Bills Before Joint Committee From Both Houses.

ENLARGED SUPREME COURT WANTED

Measure Providing for Classification of Property into Seven Classes.—Slattery's Bill Concurred in by the House.

Helena, Feb. 13.—The advantages of Glasgow as a location for a state normal school were well presented to the members of the state legislature through the activity of the members from Valley county and S. J. Rundle, who distributed to the desks of the members of the house and senate Wednesday, copies of the normal booster showing views of the city of Glasgow and telling about the resources and advantages of that city.

The publication made an excellent impression. There seems to be a strong feeling that one of the proposed normal schools should be located along the line of the Great Northern railroad in northern Montana.

All of the bills covering the proposed schools have been sent by the house from the committee on appropriations to the joint committee of three from each house, which has been appointed to make recommendations anent the construction of such institutions. It is probable that this committee will have open hearings on the matter next week.

The five principal revenue measures which it is expected will be enacted at this session of the legislature have passed the house and are now under consideration in the senate. They are the bills prepared by the state tax commission, composed of Chas. Leonard of Butte, William Lindsay of Glendive, and David Hilger of Lewiston, and embody a complete change in the taxation and revenue producing laws of the state.

The enforcement of the provisions of these bills centers around a state tax commission, one of the measures providing for submitting to the voters at the next general election of a law providing for the permanent creation of such a body, while another one of the bills provides for a commission with investigating powers that can operate under state board of equalization, which recently through a constitutional amendment was given plenary powers to enforce its ruling. One of the bills provides for the assessment by the state board of telegraph and telephone and electric power transmission lines and another for the work of the state board of equalization.

The most important changes in assessment are contained in a measure providing for a classification of the property in the state into seven classes and gives the percentage of their value which shall be assessed. In class one is mines and they are to be assessed on 100 per cent of their net income. Personal effects, household goods and agricultural tools and implements are in class 2 and they are assessed at 20 per cent of the true value; class 3 includes livestock, agricultural products and merchandise and is assessed at 33 1-3 of the value. Class 4 is comprised of lands, lots and improvements and is assessed at 30 per cent of value. Class 5 includes mortgages and securities and is assessed at seven per cent of the value. Class 6 includes stocks in banks and other corporations and is assessed at 40 per cent of value. Class 7 includes all other property and is assessed at 40 per cent of value.

It is expected that these five measures, resulting from two years' work on the part of the tax commission, will go through without any important amendments.

Enlarged Supreme Court.

The house has passed a bill providing for an increase in the number of judges of the supreme court from three to five and has named Judge Jere Leslie of Great Falls and Judge A. P. Stark of Livingston for the additional justices. This increase is said to have been agreed upon by the republican caucus so that it will go through the senate.

All measures providing for the creation of a normal school came out of the appropriations committee in the house Wednesday and were sent to a joint committee on normal schools to decide as to which one or ones should be passed, if any, and then the bills providing for the schools decided on will again be sent to the house appropriations committee.

Powder River county, the seventh (Continued on page 8.)